

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

LA PORTE, MORGAN'S POINT, & SHOREACRES LEPC | (281) 470-0010 | LAPORTELEPC.ORG

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## **ABOUT THE LEPC**

#### LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The La Porte, Morgan's Point, and Shoreacres Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is made up of local industry, government, businesses, non-profit organizations, citizens, and La Porte ISD. The LEPC provides educational outreach to the community by participating in local events. Partnering with La Porte ISD, each year the LEPC sponsors the Wally Wise elementary school program, a city-wide Shelter-in-Place drill, the annual La Porte Health & Safety Fair, and other preparedness activities.

The LEPC works closely with La Porte ISD to ensure the safety of our teachers and students in the event of a chemical emergency. Each year, the LEPC provides Shelter-in-Place training for La Porte ISD's new teachers and auxiliary staff. In addition to educational programs, the LEPC has provided each school with Shelter in Place kits and emergency alert beacons that allow for immediate notification in the event of a chemical emergency. It is the LEPC's goal to work with the community to ensure the preparedness and safety of all residents and visitors to our area. If you would like to request additional materials about the LEPC, contact (281) 470-0010 or visit laportelepc.org. The LEPC meets the second Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Meetings are held at the La Porte ISD Support Services building, located at 2015 Sens Rd. Community members are welcome to attend.

## **SHELTER-IN-PLACE STEPS**

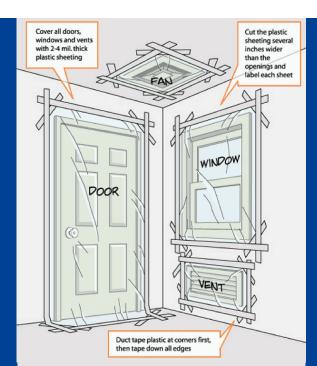
In the event of a chemical emergency that requires you to Shelter-in-Place:

- 1) GO INSIDE. Close all doors and windows. Turn off A/C or heating systems.
- 2) STAY CONNECTED. See how on Page 4.
- **3) FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS.** Do not go outside until you are advised it is safe to do so by local authorities.



#### **GET INFORMED!**

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#### SHELTER-IN-PLACE KIT

There are additional steps you can take to better protect yourself and your loved ones during a chemical emergency. An important resource to have on-hand is a Shelter-in-Place Kit.

Visit laportelepc.org to watch the Shelter-in-Place video, which includes a demonstration on what to include in a Shelter-in-Place Kit and the proper way to use the items in your kit.



#### **DURING A CHEMICAL EMERGENCY**

La Porte is home to many industrial facilities that produce and/or use various chemicals each day. Chemicals are transported on our roadways, in pipelines, and in railcars on a daily basis. As a result, there is always a risk that a chemical incident could occur in our community. Therefore, it is critical that you and your family know what actions to take during a chemical emergency.

The Cities of La Porte, Morgan's Point, and Shoreacres will notify residents and businesses of a chemical emergency that requires you to go inside and wait for further instructions. Residents are alerted to Shelter-in-Place (go inside) by the city's phone notification system and Outdoor Warning Sirens, which sound a "whoop, whoop" tone. The Outdoor Warning Sirens are tested EVERY Saturday at NOON. If you hear the City's sirens at any other time, you should Shelter-in-Place. Residents will be given updated information via your City's phone notification system, website, social media, and local media. In order to receive alerts when you are away from home, register your cell phone number with your City's phone notification system by visiting their website. Residents of La Porte can register multiple numbers and email addresses in the system by visiting laportetx.gov/addmycell.

#### **IDENTIFY A SAFE SHELTER ROOM IN YOUR HOME OR OFFICE**

Plan ahead by identifying a safe place where family members or coworkers could gather in the event of a chemical emergency, preferably in an interior room with no doors or windows. Make sure everyone knows the location. When you hear the sirens, go inside immediately and close all doors and windows. Turn off your A/C or heating systems, and bring pets inside. Do not call 9-1-1 unless you are reporting an emergency at your location. If you are in a vehicle, keep doors and windows closed and the vehicle's A/C system off. Do not go outside until the All Clear has been given by local authorities. The All Clear will be communicated through the phone notification system.

## WHEN YOUR CHILD IS AT SCHOOL

In the event of a chemical emergency, the City will notify the schools immediately via emergency alert beacons and the phone notification system. When notification of a chemical emergency is received, school officials quickly respond by sheltering children safely in school buildings.

DO NOT attempt to pick up your child from school. School principals are instructed to keep buildings locked and access restricted when a Shelter-in-Place is in effect. Opening a door to the outside puts you and your child at risk of being exposed to a potentially dangerous chemical.

REMEMBER, WE SHELTER-IN-PLACE TO PREVENT EXPOSURE!



#### **STAY CONNECTED**

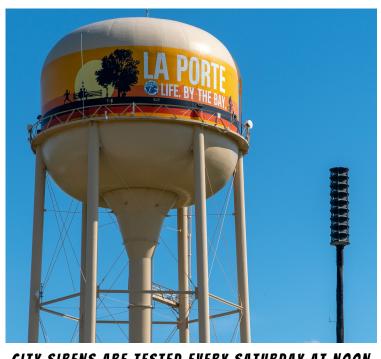
There are many ways to stay connected to the City before, during, and after an emergency. The following is a list of systems used by the City of La Porte. Visit Japortetx, gov/stayconnected for more information on each system, or contact the La Porte Office of Emergency Management at (281) 470-0010.

- Phone Notification System (Register your cell)
   Ready LP App
- · City's Website
- Social Media @lpoem (Facebook and Twitter)
- City of La Porte NewsFlash (eNews System)
- - (See back cover for more info)
- Morgan's Point
  - morganspoint-tx.com
- Shoreacres
  - shoreacrestx.us

**CAER ONLINE** 

The East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) developed CAER Online to provide information on plant activities to the community. You can download the "EHCMA CAER Online" app from the Apple or Google Play stores, or visit ehcma.org/caeronline for the latest messages.





CITY SIRENS ARE TESTED EVERY SATURDAY AT NOON.

#### **OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS**

The City tests the sirens each Saturday at noon to ensure they are in proper working order. Please help us keep the community safe by contacting the City if the sirens are not working properly. If you do not

hear the siren in your area, please contact the City at (281) 470-0010 as soon as possible. The City has installed signs on all 13 sirens throughout the city, which include this information.

**CITY OF LA PORTE OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS** 

**TESTED EVERY SATURDAY AT NOON** 

**IF SIREN FAILS TO ACTIVATE, CALL** (281) 470-0010

#### **LOCAL PLANT ALARM TEST SCHEDULES**

Local industrial facilities test their internal alarm systems each week. The area plant alarm test schedule can be found at laportelepc.org. Under the "Alarm System" section of the website, you can listen to examples of the City's sirens, and watch the Shelter-in-Place video (available in English and Spanish). Don't forget to download the Ready LP app to have quick access to the test schedule, and download the EHCMA CAER Online app to learn more about activities outside the regular test schedule.



## **FLOOD PREPAREDNESS**

Before a flood, you and your family should prepare by assembling an emergency supply kit. In your supply kit, remember to include important documents such as copies of insurance policies, birth and marriage certificates, and an inventory of household goods. If heavy rainfall is expected in your area, monitor local radio, NOAA weather radio, and local media stations for current weather updates.

During a flood, seek shelter at higher ground and continue to monitor local weather conditions. Never walk through moving water that is more than 6 inches deep or attempt to drive through high water, as it is not worth the risk. Remember, "Turn Around, Don't Drown". Be cautious when driving at night when it is more difficult to recognize flood dangers. If instructed to evacuate by local officials, take your emergency supply kit, and do not return home until advised to do so by local authorities.

Avoid contact with floodwater, as it may be contaminated and power lines may be down in the area. If you are in need of assistance, contact your local authorities. After a flood, take caution in areas where the water has receded. Be sure to take pictures of any damage.

## **DO YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT?**

Every family should have some basic supplies on hand for at least seven days. Try to assemble your kit well in advance of an emergency. The following is a list of some basic items that every emergency supply kit should include. However; it is important that individuals review this list and consider the unique needs of their family in order to create an emergency supply kit that will meet their needs. Don't forget to include supplies for your pet(s), such as food, water, and medicines. Keep items in a waterproof and portable container. Check supplies every 6 months, and rotate supplies as needed.



DON'T FORGET ABOUT YOUR PETS!

SAMPLE SUPPLIES - Water: one gallon of water per person, per day for at least 7 days; Food: a 7-day supply of non-perishable food; a manual can opener; battery-powered or hand crank radio with extra batteries; flashlight w/extra batteries; first aid kit; important documents, such as copies of insurance policies, identification, and a household inventory list; medications, prescriptions, & medical equipment; cell phone with chargers; etc.

## FLOOD INSURANCE: YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT!

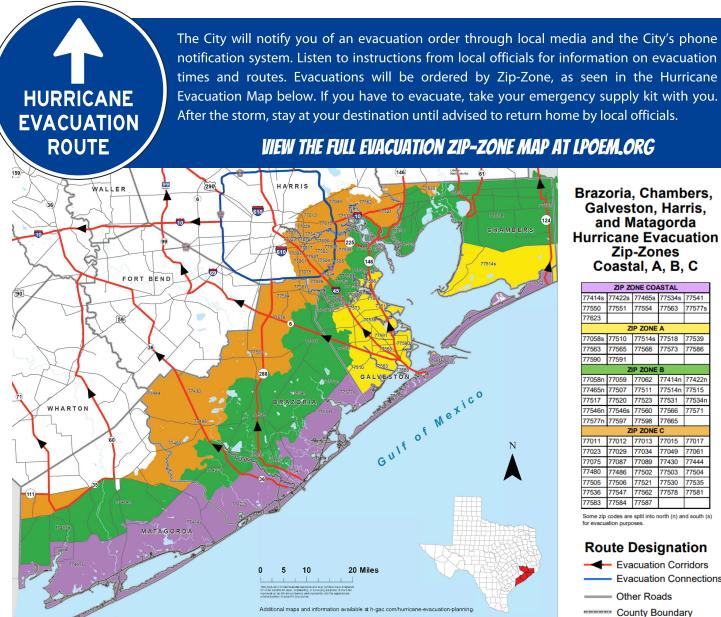
- Flood losses are not typically covered by renter's and homeowner's insurance policies.
- The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) makes federally-backed flood insurance available in communities, such as our three cities, that agree to adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances to reduce future flood damage.
- There is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance goes into effect, so don't delay!
- Flood insurance is available whether the building is in or out of an identified flood-prone area.



## **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS**

Hurricanes are extremely powerful storms that can cause catastrophic damage and loss of life. Strong winds, storm surge, flooding, and tornadoes are all hazards associated with hurricanes and tropical storms. When a hurricane is approaching, you may have little time to prepare. It is possible you will need to survive on your own for an extended period of time. Local officials and relief workers will be on scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. In addition, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment, and telephones may be cut off for days, weeks, or even longer. Hurricane season begins June 1st and lasts until November 30th. Get prepared by creating a family disaster plan and emergency supply kit. In addition, make an inventory of all the items in your home.

Remember to keep your gas tanks full during hurricane season, in case you have to evacuate with little notice. Identify ahead of time where you could go if told to evacuate: a family member's home in another town, a hotel, or a shelter. Keep telephone numbers and maps to each location on hand. If you will need help getting out of town before a storm, dial 2-1-1 to register for evacuation assistance.



Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Harris, and Matagorda **Hurricane Evacuation Zip-Zones** Coastal, A, B, C

	ZIP ZONE COASTAL						
77414s	77422s	77465s	77534s	77541			
77550	77551	77554	77563	77577s			
77623							
ZIP ZONE A							
77058s	77510	77514s	77518	77539			
77563	77565	77568	77573	77586			
77590	77591						
ZIP ZONE B							
77058n	77059	77062	77414n	77422n			
77465n	77507	77511	77514n	77515			
77517	77520	77523	77531	77534n			
77546n	77546s	77560	77566	77571			
77577n	77597	77598	77665				
ZIP ZONE C							
77011	77012	77013	77015	77017			
77023	77029	77034	77049	77061			
77075	77087	77089	77430	77444			
77480	77486	77502	77503	77504			
77505	77506	77521	77530	77535			
77536	77547	77562	77578	77581			
77583	77584	77587					

#### **Route Designation**

**Evacuation Corridors Evacuation Connections** 

Other Roads

---- County Boundary



## **CREATE A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN**

Disaster can strike quickly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. What would you do if basic services - water, gas, electricity, or telephones - were cut off? Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone right away. Families can, and do, cope with disaster by preparing in advance and working together as a team.

- Make sure everyone in your home has access to your important numbers and include a list of numbers in your supply kit.
- Find safe areas in your home for when you need to shelter-in-place.
- Determine the best escape routes from your home, and find two ways out of each room.
- Decide on a meeting place outside of your home, and one just outside of your neighborhood, in case you cannot return to your home.
- Pick a friend or family member both inside the city, and one who lives out of the immediate area for your family to contact in case they become separated.
- Make a plan about what you will do if you need to evacuate with your pets. When considering where to go in the event of an evacuation, identify locations that are pet-friendly ahead of time. Keep in mind that pets may not be allowed in certain hotels and shelters.

Keep a copy of your family emergency plan in your supply kit or another safe, waterproof place where you can access it in the event of a disaster.

## DO YOU OR A LOVED ONE NEED HELP EVACUATING?

People who may need assistance in a disaster should register with the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) by visiting texasstear.org or dialing 2-1-1. STEAR may be used by those who require transportation assistance in an evacuation, as well as individuals who may require other assistance during a disaster. Information in the STEAR system is kept confidential. In the event your area is subject to an evacuation order or other disaster, your local Office of Emergency Management may contact you to schedule transportation or other services. Registration is not a guarantee of assistance, so please continue to include transportation in your personal emergency plan.

PRE-REGISTER FOR ASSISTANCE TEXASSTEAR.ORG

## **DIAL 2-1-1**

- If you have a disability or special health care need and require assistance to get out
- If you cannot drive and cannot arrange transportation
- If you do not have a vehicle and you have no one to help you evacuate
- Don't delay, call today!
- Long #: (877) 541-7905





604 W Fairmont Pkwy La Porte, TX 77571 (281) 470-0010 laportelepc.org

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#### PARA INFORMACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL, LLAME AL (281) 470-0010

The "Ready LP" app presented by the LEPC puts important information right at your fingertips! Download the free app today to get emergency preparedness information to help you and your family become better prepared!



- Receive alerts and important information from the City of La Porte.
- Sign up for your City's phone notification system.
- View the area plant and community alarm test schedules.
- Watch the Shelter-in-Place how-to videos to teach your family what actions to take during a chemical emergency.

## NEW SHELTER-IN-PLACE VIDEO FOR KIDS!



PREPARE NOW.

LEARN HOW.

LAPORTELEPC.ORG

